

Community Workgroup Enabled Open Communications

Plum Brook Reactor Facility Decommissioning

When NASA Glenn began planning for the decommissioning of its Plum Brook Reactor Facility (PBRF) in 1998, keeping the public informed was an essential element. To ensure honest and open communications with the community, in 1999, NASA formed the Community Workgroup for the Decommissioning of the PBRF. Twelve years later, on Sept. 21, NASA representatives gathered many of the 36 community members who served on the workgroup at various points over that period to thank them for their important role in the project.

Workgroup members—consisting of local community members, educators, safety and health officials and representatives from environmental groups—served as liaisons between NASA and community members in Erie and Huron counties. They attended regular meetings to receive updates on the decommissioning process as well as annual community information

sessions with the public. Considered credible "third-party" representatives of the PBRF project, workgroup members became the "eyes and ears" of the public, asking questions that they or their constituents and neighbors had and relaying information back to the community.

During the PBRF Community Workgroup's final meeting in September, NASA officials, including Glenn Associate Director Bill Wessel and Headquarter's Assistant Administrator for Strategic Infrastructure Olga Dominguez, praised Workgroup members for their commitment and willingness to be part of NASA's outreach and education efforts in ensuring the

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Photos by Doreen B. Zudell

Workgroup members and guests gathered after the last meeting to reminisce. Pictured, top: left to right, Dave Stein and wife Carol, Betty Irby and Tom Surdyk. Below: Keith Peecook and Don Young in foreground; Anne Hinton and Michael Morgan (FOCUS GROUP) in background.

EMI Laboratory Ushers in New Era in Testing Handles Large-scale Flight Hardware

NASA Glenn has equipped its Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) Laboratory at Lewis Field (building 332) with a state-of-the-art mode tuned reverberation chamber (RC). Using this test approach on large-scale flight hardware allows projects to accomplish testing much faster than using traditional methods.

EMI Laboratory Manager Catherine Lewis, Electrical and Electromagnetics Branch, said the RC method for testing electromagnetic compatibility has been around for a long time. However, it has not been fully appreciated or accepted until recently. "The uniform electric field provided by RC subject assaults the test article to flightlike frequencies and levels to determine whether it will operate properly on orbit," Lewis explained. "With RC testing, the entire test article is 'bathed' by the energy simultaneously, providing a robust and realistic test environment."

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Straight from the Director



Why Have a Center Directors Forum?

Earlier this month, center directors from other NASA field centers gathered at Glenn Research Center for the fourth meeting of the Center Directors (CD) Forum. The forums are the



Center Director Lugo

brainchild of Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot. I really think it is a great idea for the center directors to visit each field center, and I hope these visits become a more continuing part of our culture, as opposed to a one-shot deal. I have to admit that getting more than two center directors in the same place at the same time has its challenges, but also I believe it is a benefit to the workforce.

I cannot say there has been a common theme among the forums, and I have attended them all. One thing is for sure; across the agency, folks want to know more about what is going on, and ultimately, that we are working together. I can assure you that while we may not have all the answers and our crystal ball is not perfect, there is no lack of unity in the agency senior management team.

One extra added benefit of this activity is that we, the agency center directors, have spent a lot of time together, and we have had some great conversations. Some of those conversations have led to some action; specifically, the research centers are studying ways to reduce institutional service delivery cost without reducing the levels of service. I don't have any concrete results to report, but the fact that we are looking at this together is good.

I hope the CD Forum will help demonstrate to the Glenn staff that we are standing united, and NASA is working together at doing what we do best—solving hard problems, exploring the far reaches of our universe and improving life here on Earth.

Center Director's All Hands

Lugo Stresses Importance of New Business

During the All Hands Meeting on Oct. 17, Center Director Ray Lugo provided an update on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 budget and discussed a few new business opportunities Glenn is pursuing.

Lugo said the agency is operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) until Congress sends a budget for the President to sign into law. Headquarters has decided that during the CR, the agency will operate on an annual budget of \$16.9 billion, which reflects a slightly lower figure than NASA's actual FY2011 appropriations.

Center Director Lugo at the Oct. 17 All Hands.

As a result of the estimated FY2012 budget, the agency is faced with shortfalls related to the James West Telescope project, institutional funding referred to as Center Management and Operations (CM&O) and a general 1.5 percent across the board cut. Glenn's share of the reductions could be as much as \$10 million, including a \$7 million reduction in CM&O.

"Center leadership has begun an intensive review of CM&O costs and different service acquisition models to identify areas that can be reduced or eliminated," Lugo said. "We're also

studying the Governance of Labor Distribution workforce model to determine a strategy for investing in human resources to better position the center to compete for work. Our goal is not to layoff staff."

In addition, Lugo and his senior staff have been working to effect change in not only how we do business, but also how we attract new business. Lugo cited some opportunities Glenn is pursuing:

- Working with venture capitalists to build a flywheel prototype to demonstrate the technology effectiveness and bring it to market.
- Demonstrating the latest NASA technologies that could help automobile performance, efficiency and manufacturing processes.
- Working with Parker Hannifin on a fuel cell technology proposal to AirBus to replace a typical APU (auxiliary power unit/engine) that flies on all airplanes.
- Negotiating with the European Space Agency for potential work at Plum Brook's B2 facility to begin testing next generation upper stage for Ariane 5.
- Hosting Technology Showcase 2011, Dec. 2, in cooperation with Ohio partners NorTech, TeamNEO, Ohio Aerospace Institute and the Greater Cleveland Partnership to introduce select Glenn technologies with commercial potential to the local community.

Following his briefing, Lugo opened the floor to answer questions from employees on a number of topics such as future work, the center's financial priorities and staffing levels.

-By S. Jenise Veris

Astronaut Greg Johnson Heads External Programs

Eager to Raise Level of Awareness

Astronaut Gregory H. Johnson has been named chief of NASA Glenn's External Programs Division. Johnson piloted space shuttle Endeavour's final flight, STS-134, in May.

In this position, Johnson oversees the Community and Media Relations and Educational Programs Offices. He is responsible for the development and implementation of educational, information and outreach programs that contribute to scientific literacy and communicate NASA Glenn's mission and vision to the public—locally, nationally and internationally.

Beginning in October, he assumed the duties of the office for one year, while retaining his position in the astronaut corps. He succeeds astronaut Mike Foreman, who held the position from June 2010 to May 2011.



Johnson

Upgrade Enables "Test like you fly"

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With the advent of launch vehicles using highly sophisticated avionics systems, outer vehicle surfaces constructed with lightweight nonconductive composite materials, and the increase in radio-frequency spectrum and levels, radiated susceptibility testing is needed now more than ever, Lewis affirmed. Recently the Communications, Navigation and Network reConfigurable Testbed (CoNNeCT) project was cleared to perform its radiated susceptibility testing using the mode tuned RC method.

As with any procedure run for the first time, the new test method met a few unexpected challenges. However, the EMI test team of Mike Herlacher (lead), Toby Mintz, Mike Garrett and Noel Sargent, Electrical Systems Branch/QNA; Chuck Sheehe, Flight Communications Branch; and Ronald Brewer, QNA/NASA Kennedy Space Center, worked diligently to overcome these hurdles with a minimum of schedule delay to the CoNNeCT project. Using this method reduced approxi-

mately 75 hours off the schedule.



Photos by

In addition to the RC chamber at Lewis Field, the thermal vacuum chamber at Plum Brook Station was recently certified as a reverberation chamber. Mode tuned RC testing is the future of large systems' "test like you fly," and Glenn is well prepared at both Lewis Field and Plum Brook locations to provide these services.

—By Catherine Lewis

Pictured above: Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) testbed hardware (CoNNeCT) inside the Lewis Field reverberation chamber. Pictured left: EMI test team members, left to right, Sheehe, Garrett, Herlacher and Mintz. Missing: Brewer and Sargent.

Workgroup Aids PBS Reactor Decommissioning

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public that the decommissioning process progressed safely and effectively.

Sally Harrington, Community and Media Relations Office, served as the media and community relations contact for the project from the beginning. She noted that FOCUS GROUP, consultants specializing in risk communication, supported the project by strategizing ways to ensure communications remained "open, honest and available" to the public, including a quarterly newsletter, a website and an information line.

During his final project update to the workgroup, Keith Peecook, NASA decommissioning program manager, affirmed their value. "The process has worked exactly as we hoped it would. The workgroup helped us strengthen NASA's relationship with the community as we safely decommissioned the facility."

Editor's note: The PBRF Decommissioning Project is expected to be complete next spring. The 27-acre site will then be returned to its original state as a swamp forest. AeroSpace Frontiers will share highlights on the completion of the project in the coming months.

-By Doreen B. Zudell

Looking for holiday gifts? Check out NASA Glenn's Exchange Online Gift Shop at

www.nasagiftshop.com

News and Events

Hispanic Heritage Observance >

NASA Glenn welcomed WJW Fox 8 TV meteorologist Angelica Campos as the featured speaker for the 2011 National Hispanic Heritage Month festivities on Sept. 23. Campos spoke to the national theme, "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories...One American Spirit," relating the various people and challenges that aided her resolve to be a success in her field. Employees were also treated to the high-energy of Noel Quintana and The Latin Crew and samples of Latin cuisine. Pictured: Dr. Marisabel Lebron-Colon, Glenn's Hispanic Advisory Group vice-chair (left), and Center Director Ray Lugo present a plaque of appreciation to Campos.



C-2011-3745

Photo by Bridget Caswell

First Annual Wright Brothers Day

NASA Glenn's Tom Benson and Roger Storm revived their Orville and Wilbur Wright impersonations to help celebrate the First Annual Wright Brothers Day, Oct. 5, at Wright State University in Dayton. Bolstered by an executive resolution from Governor John Kasich, the school's student marketing club initiated the event to call attention to the university's namesakes and their accomplishments. The date commemorates the epic flight of 1905, when Wilbur flew their Wright Flyer III for nearly 40 minutes on the Huffman Prairie and, subsequently, convinced the world that powered flight was not only possible but also a practical investment. That site, less than 2 miles from the university, is now a national historical landmark and a part of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Pictured, left to right: Benson, Storm and Amanda Wright Lane, great-grandniece of Orville and Wilbur Wright at the event.



Photo Courtesy of Wright State University

C-2011-3827

Photo by Michelle Murphy

CFC Blast Off to Step Up

NASA Glenn officially began its 2011 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) with a CFC Blast Off on Sept. 20. Committee members provided information on the campaign and shared personal stories about how participating CFC charity organizations have made a difference in the lives of family, friends and coworkers. Special guests from the North Coast CFC Committee helped motivate and inspire Glenn to honor this year's theme of "Step Up" to give and make this year's campaign better than the last. Pictured is Glenn CFC Chair Fred Holland, left, with North Coast CFC Campaign Coordinator Steve Johnson.

Race for the Cure "

Rainstorms on Sept. 10 couldn't keep the NASA Glenn team and the other 12,000 participants by running or walking to raise research dollars in the 2011 Northeast Ohio Komen Race for the Cure.Glenn's team, coordinated by

the center's Developing Professionals Club, raised \$450 for the annual event.





C-2011-377

Photo by Marvin Smith

STS-135 Crew Visit

Commander Chris Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley and Mission Specialist Sandy Magnus (pictured) recently visited Glenn on Sept. 20 to tour and conduct a briefing on the Endeavour/STS-135 mission. The briefing included a poignant tribute to the shuttle program as well as the astronauts' personal reflections of past missions and plans for the future. During their visit to Cleveland, the crew also provided brief presentations at the NASA Glenn Visitor Center at the Great Lakes Science Center and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

"Clean Team" Crusades for Healthy Workplaces

Three Divisions Collaborate to Make a Difference

In May 2011, heavy rains flooded 11 Lewis Field (LF) buildings. In the past, this scenario would have cost thousands of dollars in repairs related to mold and bacteria growth caused by standing water. However, thanks to the prompt response of the Water Incident Response Team (WIRT), serious damage was avoided. The creation of WIRT is one result of the efforts of NASA Glenn Research Center's Clean Team, a cross-divisional team that often calls on process improvements outlined in Lean Six Sigma.

The Clean Team is a self-directed group of expert volunteers who work without a charter, mission statement, organization chart, funding or overarching principles. The team believes its real strength lies in the fact that the nine members from three divisions-Logistics and Technical Information Division (LTID); Safety, Health and Environmental Division (SHED); and Facilities Division (FD)—are focused on creating healthy workplaces and easily work across organizations. It has no budget, but successfully advocated the restoration of \$1.5 million of maintenance cuts through "selling" their unique, money-saving ideas to the organizations responsible for funding and implementing the remedial activity.

The Clean Team was initially created 5 years ago by sponsors Dallas Lauderdale, Facilities Division chief; Manuel Dominguez, former SHED chief; and Mary Lester, former LTID chief. The Clean Team has been meeting biweekly since then to "address the root cause, instead of the problems that result from the root cause," according to Team Lead Joe Torri, Facilities Division. They review topics such as indoor environmental quality concerns, and brainstorm ideas to make Glenn a healthier work environment. Their research and recommendations have led to purchasing instruments that quickly and accurately assesses water infiltration and quantitatively measures mold.

Robin Prestien, Glenn's Architectural Systems manager, said the team's recommendations have even changed wall, floor and ceiling material selections at the center. "We now use paint materials that do not produce strong odors and carpet tiles that can be individually removed, cleaned and dried in cases of flooding."

Sandy Valenti, LTID, cited one instance when they learned of a skin rash on employees in several buildings and discovered it was the result of the snow melt (calcium chloride) tracked in on employees' shoes, becoming airborne and settling on their desks. The Facilities Division stopped using calcium chloride and the rashes disappeared.

The team's work has not gone unnoticed by Glenn management. With the advocacy of Center Operations Deputy Director Mary Lester, the team received a NASA Group Achievement Award in 2008.

With 5 years of experience in tackling important issues related to a healthier



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Photo by Bridget Caswell

Clean Team members, left to right: Tim Fiorilli, Gail Starcher, Dennis Veverka, Sandy Valenti, Fran Borato, Joe Torri and Robin Prestien. Not pictured: Marisa Pischel, Linda Sekura and Mike McVetta.

workplace, the Clean Team says its work has just begun. Employees are encouraged to help in the crusade by contacting F-IXIT (3-4948) at Lewis Field or 4-3200 at Plum Brook when observing a water leak or any problem that could result in a health issue. Prompt notification is critical in handling any potential crisis.

-By Libby Hancock, LERCIP Intern

ACES Development Test Lab Open

The new ACES Development Test Lab (DTL) is now open. The DTL has the laptop, desktop and workstation computers available through the ACES catalog on display. Employees can stop by building 142, room 187, to test these computers before your new ACES system arrives. For more information on the lab, contact Alecia Evar at 433–5278 or the ACES Team at 433–6253/8188.

The center is moving forward with the deployment of the new ACES computers. An initial deployment of 13 computers has been successfully completed. Due to changes in the agency's approach to ACES implementation, the deployment schedule for the rest of the center is being revisited.



ACES Program Manager Rob Lacios, HP/IT Operations Office, in the DTL.



Awards, Honors and Promotions

Employees Rewarded for Making Safety a Priority



Gaab, center, with ALPH supervisor Kristen Easton and Safety Director Hartline.

Tom Hartline, Safety and Mission Assurance director, presented the following employees NASA's Quality and Safety Achievement Recognition (QASAR) award for their roles to ensure the overall quality and safety at NASA Glenn.

Laurel Gaab, an Alphaport (ALPH) employee in the NASA Safety Center Mishap Investigation Support Office, for outstanding skills applied to create new mathematical formulas for analyzing

safety data from mishap investigations in new ways that increase data quality to better serve the NASA community at large and help

achieve mission success.

Donald Gurney, a Sierra Lobo, Inc. employee supporting the Plum Brook Management Office as the Test Facilities, Operations, Maintenance and Engineering (TFOME) training coordinator, for demonstrating outstanding conviction to ensure NASA's critical lift safety standards are being fully met.

Peter Klein, deputy chief of the Space Combustion



Klein, center, with Facilities and Test Director Dr. Rickey Shyne and Safety Director Hartline.

and Materials Branch,

Gurney, left, with Plum Brook Director David Stringer.

for his leadership and example in demonstrating the value of safety training among his staff to ensure what they learn is implemented for a safe workplace environment.

To learn more about the QASAR award or nominate fellow civil servant or support service contract employees, visit http:// smad-ext.grc.nasa.gov/smad/gov/qasar_ award.shtml.

Photos by Fli Abumeri

FLC Salutes Excellence



Photo by Marvin Smith

The Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC)/Midwest Region presented its 2011 Excellence in Technology Transfer Award to the team of Michael Piszczor, Photovoltaics and Power Technologies Branch, and Mark O'Neill, Entech Solar, Inc, for "The Stretched Lens Array (SLA): Ultra-Light, Affordable Green Energy Technology." SLA is a high-performance, ultra-light solar concentrator technology applicable for both ground and space that was developed with federal grants and transferred to the marketplace. SLA was tested and optimized through NASA's Deep Space 1 mission and is now being used for the launch of Entech Solar's new terrestrial product, the Solar VoltTM module.

Laurie Stauber, Innovation Project Office, received the "Midwest Regional Coordinator's Excellence Award—FLC Laboratory Representative of the Year." She was recognized for developing innovative ways to establish partnerships via conferences, forums and advertising. Stauber also helped raise the visibility of Glenn research through trade magazine articles and overseeing a highly successful awards program.

Professional Honors Presented



The SAE International Association presented the 2010 Clarence "Kelly" Johnson Aerospace Vehicle Design and Development Award, in October, to Bruce Banks, a NASA retiree and current Alphaport senior physicist who supports the Space Processes and Experiments Division. Named for Johnson, the founder of Lockheed's Skunk Works, the award honors significant contributions to the innovative design and development of

advanced aircraft and/or spacecraft. Banks was selected for development of atomic oxygen durable solar array blankets used for the International Space Station estimated to have saved \$15 billion in repairs, and the hydroformed ion optics and spall-resistant surfaces that enabled ion thrusters to operate on the Deep Space One and Dawn missions.

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) presented the Judith Resnik Challenger Medal to Kim de Groh, a senior materials research engineer in Glenn's Space Processes and

Experiments Division, in October. Named for SWE member and astronaut, Dr. Resnik, the award is reserved for specific engineering breakthrough or achievement that has expanded the horizons of space exploration. deGroh was selected for exceptional materials performance expertise and for playing a crucial role in the success of the Hubble Space Telescope mission.



de Grob



George M. Bode, 89, who retired with 32 years of NASA service, died Aug. 28. Bode was a mechanical engineer who joined the NACA/NASA workforce in 1947. He primarily supported the Mechanical Engineering Division, except for the period from 1961 to 1965, when he joined the Agena Project Office. There he served as project engineer of the Ranger VI, VII, VIII and IX launches that surveyed the moon, for which he earned a 1965



Bode

Group Achievement Award. In 1967, while head of the Machine Design Section, he oversaw the design of quiet aircraft components, test rights for Zero-G, VTOL, STOL, fracture mechanics, high-speed rotating equipment and a host of other projects. He became chief of the Engineering Design Division in 1975, where he remained until retirement in 1979.

Martin Kisel, Jr., 81, who retired from NASA in 1988, died Aug. 28. The majority of his 34 years with NACA/NASA, Kisel served as a member of the Engineering Design Division, where he assisted in the design, development, construction and installation of rocket engines. Notable among the projects he was involved was the design and buildup of the Atlas Centaur rocket and launching pad. He received a 1980 Exceptional Engineering Medal. Kisel spent the latter half of his career supporting the Space Transportation Engineering and the Structures Systems Divisions. Upon retirement, he was hired by Analex Corporation



Kisel

and continued contributing to NASA's missions. He coauthored a technical paper, "A Multi-zone Muffle Furnace Design," with Neil Rowe (1993) that aided in-house experience using tubular furnaces for microgravity processing.



Dr. Morales

Dr. Wilfredo "Fred" Morales, 58, who retired from NASA, June 2011, with 34 years of federal service, died Sept. 2. Morales served in the U.S. Air Force and began his NASA career as a co-op. He was hired as a full-time research materials engineer in the Structures and Mechanical Technologies Division (now the Materials Division) in 1981. He wrote numerous technical papers and submitted seven patent proposals, including one currently pending. He earned several prestigious awards for his contributions to NASA missions, including the Exceptional Service Medal (1999) for developing innovative, high-temper-

ature, liquid lubricant formulas for aerospace and industrial application; Group

Achievement Awards as a member of the General Aviation Propulsion Revitalization Team (2001) and the Surface Mobility Team (2007), and the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award Corporation's (2006) conference award for Outstanding Technical Achievement in Government. Morales consistently pursued excellence at work and in the classroom earning both his masters and doctoral degrees during his tenure. He served as an Employees Equal Opportunity counselor and member of the Hispanic Advisory Group to ensure his coworkers had similar opportunities.









Article Deadlines

News items and briefannouncements for publication in the December issue is noon, Nov. 18.Larger articles require at least one month notice.

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Hermes Award 2010-2011







My family and I thank you for the many expressions of sympathy on the recent passing of my sister, Brenda Horn-Ali. Your support at this time has been comforting. —Cleve Horn

Thanks to all our NASA friends and colleagues for their many expressions of sympathy on the passing of our mom. Your thoughts and prayers gave us strength during a difficult time.

-Barb Mader and Judy Buttler



RETIRED WOMEN'S LUNCHEON: The NASA Retired Women's Luncheon will be held at noon Thursday, Nov. 17, at Pier W., 12700 Lake Road in Cleveland. Please reserve your place by calling or emailing Gerry Ziemba, 330-273-4850 or gto64gerry@yahoo.com.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: RESCHEDULED. Glenn's National Native American Heritage Month Observance will be held Thursday, Dec. 15, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the OAI Auditorium. Light refreshments will be served.

IFPTE LOCAL 28, LESA MEETING: LESA will hold its next membership meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at noon in the Employee Center's Small Dining Room.



Harry Fuller III, Aviation Environments Technical Branch, Testing Division, retired on Feb. 28, 2011, with 23 years of NASA service.

Emergency and Inclement Weather Lines

Lewis Field: 216–433–9328
Plum Brook Station:
419–621–3333

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New Building Houses Excess Property for Reusability

When NASA property is no longer needed at Lewis Field and Plum Brook Station, it is not thrown in a nearby dumpster and sent to a landfill. Controlled (tagged) and noncontrolled (nontagged) property is processed for excess through Glenn's Property Disposal Office with the goal of reusing the items.

The newly constructed Logistics and Maintenance Facility, building 351, which opened on Cryogenics Road last month, provides the necessary space to hold excess items that constantly process into and out of the facility. The building boasts 18,000 square feet, which includes an area with a high bay and office space. This new structure replaces buildings 84 and 137, demolished earlier this year to make way for construction of the Centralized Office Building.

"We follow NASA and federal government requirements for processing excess property," explained Property Disposal Officer Frank DeAngelo, Logistics and Technical Information Division. "This involves making the items available for reuse by other NASA centers, government agencies or the public through General Services Administration Auctions."

The firm of Burt, Hill designed the single-story structure for Silver



certification

by the U.S. Green Building Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Program, nationally accepted as the benchmark for design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. Key among the energy-efficient features is a ground-source heat pump that transfers heat to and from the earth to provide cooling and heating for the building. KBJ Inc., of Oakwood Village, constructed the facility.

Project Manager Tim Wardlow, Facilities Division, said the building is an important Facility Master Plan. It is also the first phase of three planned phases required to complete the overall Logistics and Maintenance Facility. Two additions will be added on to the east and west of this structure in Phases 2 and 3. Those buildings will be used for maintenance, new materials and to house outreach exhibit items.

"This building is a clean, efficient and well-planned space that was designed specifically for the property disposal function," Wardlow affirmed.

Editor's note: Property is processed for excess through N-PROP, which replaces the obsolete NASA C-260. NASA-tagged (controlled) property can only be submitted for excess by the assigned user. However, anyone may submit a request for noncontrolled property.

-By Doreen B. Zudell